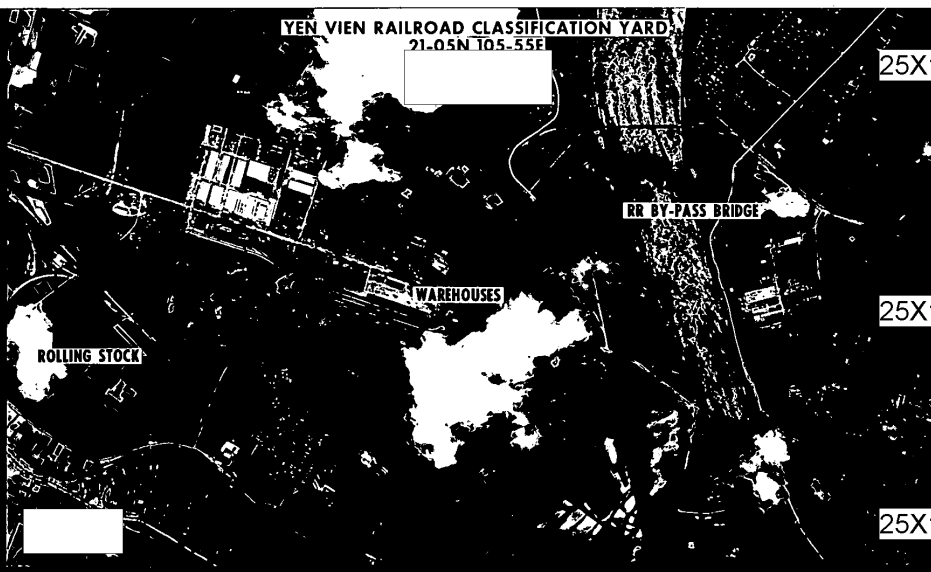




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# FLOODING HANOI AREA, NORTH VIETNAM



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*BB/A/14*

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Reference to:



FLOODING  
HANOI AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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1. SIGNIFICANCE: EXTENSIVE FLOODING IN THE RED RIVER DELTA  
NEAR HANOI.
2. REMARKS: FLOODING GENERALLY OCCURS IN THE RED RIVER  
DELTA DURING EACH RAINY SEASON. HOWEVER, FLOODING  
THIS YEAR HAS BEEN EXTENSIVE. THE RED RIVER DELTA  
IS THE FOREMOST RICE-PRODUCING AREA IN NORTH  
VIETNAM AND ONE OF THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED  
AREAS IN THE WORLD.
3. COLLATERAL: IN THE 2 SEPTEMBER 1971 WASHINGTON POST, PHAN VAN  
DONG WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THE FLOOD "IS EVEN  
BIGGER THAN (THE FLOOD) OF 1945 WHICH WAS A  
CATASTROPHE... (AND IS) CAUSING HEAVY LOSSES IN  
AGRICULTURE, COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORTATION, AND  
IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT PROPERTY."

THIS YEAR'S FLOODING IS ALSO DESCRIBED IN  
THE WASHINGTON EVENING STAR OF 8 SEPTEMBER 1971

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GROUP 1: EXCLUDED FROM  
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING  
AND DECLASSIFICATION

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AS HAVING WIPED OUT PART OF THE RICE CROP.

ALSO, RAILROAD AND HIGHWAY NETWORKS HAVE BEEN  
DAMAGED OR ARE UNDER WATER.

4. FIRST IDENTIFICATION: THIS MISSION

5. NEGATION DATE:

6. MISSION READOUT: EXTENSIVE FLOODING WAS OBSERVED IN THE RED RIVER  
DELTA NEAR HANOI. THE RIVER HAS OVERFLOWED ITS BANKS FLOODING MUCH OF THE  
ADJOINING LOWLANDS; HOWEVER, THE HIGH LEVEES NEAR THE CITY APPEAR TO BE  
CONTAINING THE FLOOD WATERS. THE MOST SEVERE FLOODING APPEARED IN THE  
LOW, FLAT TERRAIN GENERALLY NORTHEAST AND SOUTHEAST OF HANOI WHERE NUMEROUS  
SMALL VILLAGES WERE COMPLETELY FLOODED. FLOOD WATERS HAVE INUNDATED MUCH  
OF THE HIGHWAY AND RAILROAD SYSTEMS NEAR HANOI INCLUDING ROUTE 5 AND THE  
RAIL LINE BETWEEN HANOI AND HAI DUONG, THE MAJOR ROUTES LEADING NORTHEAST  
FROM HANOI, AND THE HANOI-DONG DANG RAIL LINE AT LEAST AS FAR AS THE CITY  
OF BAC NINH. THE YEN VIEN RAILROAD CLASSIFICATION YARD ( )  
WAS COMPLETELY FLOODED WITH WATERS ALMOST COMPLETELY COVERING THE ROLLING  
STOCK. THE ADJOINING WAREHOUSE AREAS, AL MO WAREHOUSE AREA ( )  
AND AL MO WAREHOUSE AREA EAST ( ), WERE PARTIALLY SUBMERGED.  
ONLY THE ROOFTOPS OF MOST OF THE BUILDINGS IN THESE FACILITIES WERE

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VISIBLE ABOVE THE WATER. THE HANOI RAILROAD AND HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE CANAL DES RAPIDES [ ] WAS NOT FLOODED, BUT AT LEAST THREE SPANS OF THE RAIL BY-PASS BRIDGE TO THE EAST WERE SUBMERGED OR WASHED AWAY.

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HANOI SAM SITE A15-2 [ ] WAS ALMOST COMPLETELY INUNDATED. GIA LAM AIRFIELD [ ], 2 NAUTICAL MILES NORTH OF HANOI, WAS NOT FLOODED; HOWEVER, A LOW COUNT OF NINE AIRCRAFT WAS OBSERVED. APPROXIMATELY 40 AIRCRAFT ARE NORMALLY OBSERVED AT GIA LAM.

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PHOTO REFERENCES:

[ ]

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ENLARGEMENTS: HANOI SAM SITE - 7X  
YEN VIEN RAIL CLASSIFICATION YARD - 4X & 6X

IEG/EGD/SEAB

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